



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Executive Office for Immigration Review  
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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Immigration Judge Takes Oath of Office In York, Pennsylvania**

YORK, Pa. – Grace A. Sease was sworn in today as an Immigration Judge during an investiture ceremony at 1:00 p.m., in the Colonial Courthouse, 201 W. Market Street, York, Pa. Chief Immigration Judge Michael J. Creppy, from the Executive Office for Immigration Review in Falls Church, Va., administered the oath of office.

She joins the ranks of more than 200 Immigration Judges located in 51 Immigration Courts throughout the nation. Immigration Judges are responsible for conducting formal administrative proceedings to determine whether foreign-born individuals who are charged with violations of federal immigration law should be removed from the United States or may be granted relief from removal. Immigration Judges decide each case independently and their decisions are final unless appealed or certified to the Board of Immigration Appeals. In the past year, Immigration Judges completed more than 250,000 such proceedings. They are also authorized to administer oaths of citizenship to candidates for naturalization.

Judge Sease was appointed Immigration Judge in April 2002. She received her M.A. in 1966 from Michigan State University, her Ph.D. in 1972 from Michigan State University, and her J.D. in 1987 from George Mason University. From December 1992 to April 2002, Judge Sease worked as assistant district counsel for the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in Atlanta, Ga. She served as a trial attorney for the INS in Harlingen, Texas, from January 1991 to November 1992. From August 1987 to January 1991, Judge Sease worked as an attorney-advisor for the U.S. Department of Labor, Benefits Review Board, in Washington, D.C. She is a member of the Virginia and District of Columbia Bars.

The Executive Office for Immigration Review, a component of the Department of Justice, is responsible for providing due process to individuals who are charged with immigration law violations. The agency also includes the Board of Immigration Appeals to hear appeals of Immigration Judge decisions and the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer to handle employment-related immigration matters.

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